

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/574,824

Examiner

GREGORY A. DISTEFANO

Applicant(s)

BLEVINS ET AL.

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment filed 3/8/2011.
2. ☒ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7 and 9-21.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/8/2011, 4/6/2011
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/28/2011.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

/William Bashore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2175

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the request for continued examination filed 4/6/2011.

Claims 1-7 and 9-21 are currently pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeremy Protas (Reg. No. 61,681) on 9/28/2011.

In the claims:

18. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for a process plant, the method comprising the steps of:

generating content for a plurality of different types of users of the user interface by processing data regarding on-line and simulated operation of the process plant;

executing a display module operable to render on a display device each of a plurality of customized depictions of the process plant; and

rendering a selected portion of the content in one of the plurality of customized depictions of the process plant by determining the selected portion of the content in accordance with a current user type of the plurality of different user types, wherein the selected portion of the content includes:

(1) a set of graphic display elements common to each of the plurality of customized depictions, the set of graphic display elements illustrating a set of interconnected plant equipment to be illustrated in the customized depiction for each of the plurality of different user types and

(2) a set of depiction-specific display information to be displayed in conjunction with the common set of graphic display elements for the current user type that differs for each of the plurality of different user types, the set of depiction-specific display information unique to the type,

wherein each graphic display element has associated with it the set of depiction-specific display information for each of the plurality of customized depictions.

(All other claims remain as they appear in applicant's amendment filed 3/8/2011)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 and 9-21 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the addition of the limitation directed to the set of information being unique to each content layer,

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renders moot the previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Blevins'963 in view of Spriggs in view of Blevins'858. While several of the prior arts of reference teach of presenting different content layers which are customized for different types of users (best exemplified by Spriggs, column 29, lines 27-30), the arts reference fail to explicitly teach or suggest that the set information is unique to the content layer. Many of the arts of reference teach of presenting different graphs and information dependent upon the type of user, however, no suggestion is made within the art that the set of information is unique to that particular user type.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

-Jim et al. (US 6,591,244), discusses presenting different views of business tasks based upon user type.

-Dardinski et al. (US 6,754,885), See Figs. 59, 63, and 64.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREGORY A. DISTEFANO whose telephone number is

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(571)270-1644. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore can be reached on 571-272-4088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/GREGORY A DISTEFANO/
Examiner, Art Unit 2175
9/28/2011

/William Bashore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2175